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Icra: News.—The City and Suburban News Sureau of the United Press and New York Americants Press as \$1 to 250 Am street. All information and does ments for public use instantly dissominated to the grees of the whole country.

Weadock's Press Censorship Bill.

There is now in the hands of the House Committee on Post Offices and Post Roads a measure of extraordinary character, introduced last summer by Congressman WEADOCK of Michigan. The bill purports to amend and reënact section 3,877 of the Revised Statutes.

This is the section which defines second class mail matter; that is to say, all printed newspapers and other periodicals regularly issued at stated periods from a known office of publication. The WEADOCK bill adds to the existing definition the following pro-

"Any newspaper or other matter of the second class which advises, abets, or suggests the commission of any offence against any law of the United States, or 21.3 State or Territory, or any country with which We are at peace, shall be excluded from the mails."

Congressman WEADOCK is a Democrat and an Irishman born. We suppose his bill was incended to prevent the dissemination through the mails of dangerous Anarchist literature. Its effect, however, would be to establish a censorship not only utterly repugnant to American ideas, but also violative of the First amendment of the Constitution, which provides that "Congress shall make no law abridging the freedom of the press."

The freedom of the press would not necessarily be abridged by a law excluding from the mails newspapers which advise, abet, or suggest the commission of serious offences og tinst the laws of the United States or of the States or Territories. Whatever may be thought of the impolicy of such a system of censorship, or of its possibilities of mischievous and oppressive misuse, the section of the Revised Statutes, for example, which excludes from the mails periodicals publishing obscene matter cannot be held to abridge the freedom of the press, and therefore to be unconstitutional. But to deny, as WEADOCK would deny, the privileges of the Post Office to any journal which shall at any time advise or suggest the commission of any offence against any law of any country with which we are at peace is so clearly unconstitutional that no argument is needed on the question.

Legislators who try their hand at establishing in this country any sort of press censorship, no matter how well intended. usually make themselves ridiculous when they come to specifications.

Cheering Capt. Creeden.

We do not quite understand what the audience cheered Capt. CREEDEN for, after he had confessed to paying \$15,000 with the intent that it should be used as a bribe to induce the Police Commissioners to pro-

Bribe taking is a damnable offence, and bribe giving has not usually been deemed worthy of applause in a community in its right mind.

Still stranger seems the conduct of the LEXOW committee in declaring that the public interests would not be served if Cant. CREEDEN were disturbed in his present official post! This view is shared by Mr. JOHN W. GOFF, the counsel of the committee, who said to Police Commissioner MAR-TIN: "It would be an excellent thing for you to reinstate that excellent officer tomorrow.

The moral standards of the Lexow committee are becoming almost as lax as those of the Police Department.

Cheers for a bribe giver in reformed New York! They do not sound pleasantly.

The State Democracy and the Creeden

Case.

The true inwardness of the CREEDEN case as it is understood by politicians and not in the form revealed before the LEXOW committee on Friday, forms an interesting chapter in the recent history of this municipality.

Cant. CREEDEN testified that, while Ser geant of the Eldridge street police station he aspired to become a Captain and paid \$15,000 for the promotion. Of this sum \$5,000 was declared to have gone to John W. REPPENHAGEN, a Broome street saloon keeper, who retained it; and \$10,000 to JOHN MARTIN, a Bleecker street saloon keeper, who is supposed to have also kept \$5,000; while the balance, \$5,000, went, as was believed, to the Police Commissioner, Judge Voornis, who made the appointment. Now, such a division seems preposterous: for a corrupt Commissioner would hardly give two-thirds of the revenue from such a lawless and desperate transaction, to two irresponsible and unnecessary outsiders. Besides, the official against whom it is charged, is known everywhere as a circum spect functionary of unblemished personal record. Besides, he denies absolutely any corrupt share in the affair.

On the other hand, the facts of the case as the politicians understand them, are plausible and comprehensible. This is what

The VOORHIS Democracy was established in 1890 for the purpose of opposing Tam-many Hall. It did not prosper. City offices were not plenty among its members, and its eader and founder, Commissioner Voorhis, who is now a Police Judge, was obliged to maintain it, chiefly through the agency of police appointments, big and little. When a vacancy in a Captaincy or Sergeancy co-curred, it "went to the organization," to aid its members in their warfare against Tammany. JOHN MARTIN was the Chair man, John W. REPPENHAGEN was the Treasurer of the Voornis faction. The appointment of TIM CREEDEN to be a Captain at the time, and under the circumstances stated by him, was intended, so the politicians say, to strengthen the Voornis organization; but it had the contrary effect for the leaders who were benefited by this political windfall deserted, with REPPER-HAGEN, the Treasurer, at their head, and became, so we are told, the keystone of the Anti-Snap or CLEVELAND organization, designed to fight Tammany under the leadership of Rowdedow Grace, and not of Judge VOORHIS. Thus the solid capital of the Anti-Snappers was, in fact, the original contribution raised through the CREEDES candidacy; and Mr. FAIRCHILD, Mr. GRACE, Mr. PECK-MAM, and their associates found among their recruite REPPENHAGEN, SNELL, KUNZEN-MANN, CARVALNO, and other former Voor-

hieltes. They were active at the Syracuse Anti-Snsp Convention, which resolutely demanded a reform in campaign methods; and when the Anti-Snap delegates returned from Chicago in June, 1899, these were their State Committeemen:

6. Whalam E. Curtie.
7. Wallace Marfarland.
61. Robert Grier Monton.
8. John W. Reppenhappe.
18. Herray Aller.
8. H. Dr. Formet Baldwin.

Mr. CURTIS is now Assistant Secretary of the Treasury under the CLEVELAND Administration; Mr. MacFarland is United States District Attorney by appointment of Mr. CLEVELAND. Mr. BALDWIN holds a place in the Custom House. REPPENHAGEN, RIDDER, and MONROE have not yet been provided with Federal offices.

Thus, in the warfare against Tammany, the Voorhis organization was superseded by the Anti-Snap or State Democracy. The former Voorhisites have formed, so to speak. the leaven of that reform movement; and at the election a few weeks ago, Mr. REPPEN-HAGEN was the State Democracy candidate for Assembly in the Third district, on a platform dead against Tammany; and Mr. MARTIN, his colleague as alleged, in the CREEDEN transaction, was the State Democracy candidate for Assembly in the Eighth district, of which Mr. FAIRCHILD is a resident, and in which he is the leader. Mr. MARTIN was FAIRCHILD's candidate against Mr. CONKLING, the successful Republican nominee. Nor is that all. WILLIAM SNELL, the stakeholder of the CHEEDEN money, was the State Democracy or reform candidate for Alderman in the Third district on Nov. 6: and his old associate in the VOORHIS Democracy, JACOB KUNZENMANN, is the solitary State Democracy Assemblyman in the

next Legislature! The laborious work of reform has to be prosecuted against serious obstacles in this town. But in no recent instance, as the politicians say, has the money raised for the purchase, or alleged purchase, of a police Captaincy been turned so promptly into the channels of improvement and a higher standard, as in the CREEDEN case. No doubt REPPENHAGEN, MARTIN, and SNELL gave their cheerful assent to the sentiments which form the foundation stone of the State Democracy. We quote from its dedicatory address as follows:

"But it to not alone by their despotts use of saif. ebasen and self-perpetualing party-committees to con-trol caucuses and conventions, in defiance and con-tempt of the wishes of the majority, that these unfaithfull leaders have brought scandal upon the party. They have prostituted the name of Democracy to the vilest ends. Municipalities have been looted, and have been denied the right of self-government. Offices have been bestowed upon unworthy persons as rewards for disreputable political services, and as tributes to personal friendship. The laws of the State have been violated, the mandates of its courts defied, and comnon decency outraged."

What citizen will now presume to stand up and say that this is not so?

Is Our Minister at Pekin Safe? If the report telegraphed to the London Times by its Tientsin correspondent is founded on fact, our Minister to China and his suite are in a perilous position, as the result of the disgraceful neglect of our State Department to take timely and effective measures for their protection. It has long been known that the foreign Ministers cannot venture to confront the risks of the long journey from Pekin to Tientsin, because the route is infested by murderous marauders. Until rescued, therefore, they must remain in the Chinese capital: but they are by no means in safety there. for the ability of the Chinese authorities to control the disorderly elements of the population is already questionable, and it would be reduced to zero the moment the Japanese were believed to be approaching Pekin. It is months since every one acquainted with the actual situation in China, and competent to calculate the effect, not only of the victories, but of the strategic movements of the Japanese, foresaw that a capture of Pekin would inevitably be followed by a collapse of the present Manchu dynasty, and by a period of anarchy eventually resulting in the rise of a native reigning house. That the capture of Pekin by the French and English in 1860 did not bring about similar consequences was due solely to the fact that the Manchu rulers were then able to retire to Manchuria, whence they had emerged, and thus to retain their prestige and a solid base of operations. No such place of refuge is now open to them. Between them and Mukden, their native capital, a Japanese army is interposed; and in truth the whole of Manchuria may be said to be controlled for military purposes by the invaders. For the beaten and discredited Manchu sovereign to fly from Pekin southward into the heart of China

subjects, and will be powerless to render any aid to the foreign legations. Such is the prospect; and to Secretary GRESHAM, were he fit for his place, it would have been just as clear months ago as it is to-day. The fault is his that he did not in good season order our Minister at Pekin to seek refuge at Tientsin. The fault is his that, when our Minister telegraphed for immediate protection, he was unable for upward of a week to place even a force of fifty marines as near to Pekin as Tientsin. And now even this derisory guard is denied admittance to the Chinese capital. Why? Because events are moving with frightful rapidity at Pekin, under the impact of the news of the Japanese advance. and the Manchu authorities now shrink from exasperating the populace with the

proper, would be literally to leave the fry-

ing pan for the fire. Under these circum

stances, the first booming of a Japanese gun

within earshot of the Chinese capital will

sound the knell of the Manchus, who thence-

forward will have their hands full to pro-

tect themselves against their infuriated

sight of foreign soldiers. The lack of ordinary foresight and the inexcusable delay on the part of our State Department are not unlikely to expose our dinister to the gravest danger. We advise Mr. GRESHAM to sleep well while he can, for at any hour his bedside may be haunted by the victims of a tragedy for which this country will hold him to account.

A Poet-Economist's "Seem." The Hon. WILLIAM LEFT WILSON of the Wilson bill and the Congress of Broken Promises, recovers easily from calamity. Evidently his is an impetuous and poetic temperament, quickly cast down, eager in expression, rising elately from the ashes on which it has just slipped. A few days ago he was in Boston, calling the American people asses, by innuendo, for not approving him and the bill that GROVER CLEVELAND and he planned in the green of the moon, when the star of Populism was in the ascendant and Democracy began to be penumprated. Disappointment cried out in him, and his heart had not healed then. On Monday last Mr. GEORGE HAZZARD of Tacome published a letter that he had received from Mr. Wilson. It showed the spineless statesman in a more buoyant mood. "I don's allow myself," he said, "to repine over my own reverses; and as to the general disaster, I any confident that the people will soon learn that the Democratic party did not deserve any such chastisement at their hands, and will come back to us as passion

ately as they seem to have left us." 'Seem," nay, is! What does the West Virginia statesman with the poetical temperament mean by his "seem "? Does he refuse to believe that the correct returns from the elections have been received, and duly counted? Does he think that some strange transformation scene is yet to come and show that the supposed Democratic cataclysm is only a pageant, and that WILSON and SPRIN-GER, and the rest of the band of platform smashers, were reflected after all ? We cannot think that this particular poetical temperament is so far across the bounds of delusion. Mr. Wilson probably means to minimize the disaster when he says "seems." He means to assure his Pacific friend that, though the people have been passionate, they could easily have been more passionate. And it is true. For instance, there might have been no Democrats at all in the next House. Perhaps Mr. Wilson in his first reaction against his previous gloom looks gladly upon the brighter side. To his mind in its present condition the thought that the plurality in Pennsylvania was not 400,000 may be reassuring. No one will grudge him his consolation.

Mr. WILSON'S continuing faith that he and Mr. CLEVELAND were right, and the country wrong in the late difference between them, might be construed by the censorious as self-confidence and unreduced megalocephaly, but we prefer to regard it as a proof of the elastic optimism of Mr. Wilson's temperament. The people have smitten him sorely, but they will come back and apologize. Mr. WILSON will be allowed to seek his sylvan home in a few months, but Mr. CLEVELAND will continue to do business at the old stand, in the manner that has brought out such affectionate commendation from the Democracy. He will not change, but why should he? Is he not the people, as they say on the baseball grounds, and the people can do no wrong. The passionate. misguided voters of 1894 will rush back with hymns on their lips and garlands in their hands next time.

Why? Because they will. Because, as Mr. WILSON says, mildly shaking the Populist banner:

"This country does not belong to the trusts and me opolies, and no single battle can give it to them. An ermy may be defeated, but our cause, as the old toman, ALLEN G. THURMAN, said on his recent birthday, is the cause of free institutions, and is, therefor

Democracy, as the hired man of Populism loesn't appeal to free institutions, and this country doesn't belong to Populism. Until Mr. WILSON finds these things out, his poetic feet will do a deal of stumbling on the particularly dark cellar stairs where he keeps on very hopefully going down.

Make a Place for Him.

Mr. JOSEPH HODGES CHOATE is not an excitable person, and he is full of legal concepts. At the dinner to Col. STRONG last Thursday night he ended his speech with this interesting passage:

"I bespeak for Col. STRONG a successful admin tion, carried out upon the pledges he has given and upon the understanding on which his fellow citizens have elected him; and I know that from the beginning to the end of his term he will have no more ardent supporter, no more efficient aid, no more wise coun sellor, than Dr. Pankhunst." [Great cheering, many

We had supposed that the notion that Dr. PARKHURST was elected last November to be the BISMARCK of the next municipal Administration was confined to heated heads. and in particular to the head of Dr. PARK-HURST. His language, which is not without copiousness, shows that he esteems himself to be the next Mayor's Mayor of the Palace. When an intellectual and even a sardonic person, like Mr. CHOATE, corroborates Dr. PARKHURST, the situation appeals to the best thought of legislators. Judging from much idle and much serious

talk, there must be a demand or an expectation that Dr. PARKHURST shall have ar influential part in Col. STRONG's administration. It will be for the next Legislature to provide an official responsibility for him. him be made Cour Mayor's Mentor-at-large. Let him have a place of definite power and responsibility. At present he is counselling irresponsibly.

The Holiday Trade.

During this week the holiday trade will be at its height, and the indications are that in its volume it will be greater than in any past year. The amount of money expended may be less than it was in holiday seasons of greater general prosperity, but it will go further than ever before. It will buy more, for, on the average, the prices of merchandise are now at the lowest level reached in the istory of American trade and production.

Manufactures of silver are brought by the present low price of the metal within the means of multitudes of people who formerly could not hope to possess them. The decline in the prices of what are called raw materials has reduced the cost of fabrics and of nearly every manufactured article. The long period of business depression has compelled greater economy in methods of production. Because of that particular influence, and in accordance with the operation of the general law of trade, competition is steadily decreasing the margin of obtainable profit. The consequence is that the money of the people is worth more to them than ever before in food, clothing, and all articles of both necessity and luxury. Hence the volume of trade must be much greater than formerly to be of the same amount in value. No decline in the gracious custom of Christmas giving appears. Stimulated by the decline in prices, it seems to be increasing.

Meantime there are evidences of actually returning prosperity in the remarkably great attendance at the theatres and the opera house, and in the crowding of the hotels with sojourning strangers or those who have taken up their residence here for the whole winter. It is only necessary that a theatre shall present a play that appeals to the popular taste in order to have all its seats occupied at every performance. The present opera season is more than usually successful financially. The strangers at the hotels are belping trade by the purchase of many costly articles of luxury, and the society of fashion is getting ready for a winter of gayety, by the expenditures of which great numbers of people will profit.

The temptations offered to buyers were never so many or so alluring as they are now, both in the goods themselves and the prices at which they are sold. The finest taste in manufacture is carried down to goods of cheapest cost, and, considering the quality, that cheapness is one of the most wonderful of the results of the development of civilization. The poor can now buy luxuries which one hundred years ago, and even fifty years ago, were within the reach of kings and princes and millionaires only.

That Chinese custom by which a man condemned to decapitation can hise a substitute, has been found convenient in several cases as the judge in the poetry contest in the Eclogue during the war with Japan. The latest case of says; but it is common kindness to furnish a pin

which we have had a report is that of Gen. Lt WEI, whose head, it had been supposed, was war, whose head, it had been supposed, was chopped off, by imperial order, for cowardics at the battle of Ping-Yang. He saved his own head, however, by procuring a victim to take his place at the chopping block and impersonate him before the headsman. The General himself is still enjoying life. The law has been satisfied; the vengeance of the war-god has been glutted; any man's head will suit him as well as any other's. The travellers in China say it is never difficult for a rich criminal to hire a man to suffer his punishment. The custom is satisfactory to all concerned, and is respected for its

venerable age. Most assuredly, the responsible officers of banking institutions are fully justified in nolding all their employees to the strictest line of right and proper personal conduct. No man should take a place in a bank who is not willing to submit to rigorous discipline, as regards his habits of life. If individual liberty is thus restricted, it is necessary for the safe conduct of the business that it should be. Of course the Presidents and other high officers of the banks will themselves obey such rules as they may lay down for the guidance of their subordinates. If a bank clerk may not drink in a public place, or enter a pool room, or play hokey or traps, or give way to any other bad habit, neither may a bank President.

If any voting citizen omits to read the letter which we publish to-day from Mr. T. TROMAS FORTUNE, dated at Dallas, Tex., and reporting the present conditions of Texas politics, that citizen will make a serious mistake,

It is one hundred and twenty-one years ago to-day that a band of patriots in Boston. disguised as Indians, went aboard three ships laden with tea, which recently had arrived from England, and breaking open the chests emptied their contents into the bay. The reason for this act of violence is well known to every schoolboy in the United States, and to a few in England, but it seems to have been entirely forgotten by the Free Trade and Populistic members of Congress who passed the Wilson bill. For the enlightenment of these legislators we will briefly rehearse the facts. King GEORGE III. got the idea into his head that the American colonies, now comprising a considerable part of the United States, were specially created by Divine Providence for the express purpose of filling the depleted royal exchequer. And with that Hanoverian stubborn. ness which was characteristic of the royal Georges he insisted on carrying out this idea: Of what use are the Yankees, anyhow, if not to be taxed?" The Americans failed to agree with King GRORGE, and as they could not prevent English goods from being shipped into their ports, they did the next best thing, and that was to form non-importation associations and to refuse to buy these goods. Finally the Privy Council resolved to take vengeance on "the insolent town of Boston," and a force of redcoats was sent there under Gen. GAGE.

But even this did not make the Bostonese buy the taxed goods, and then the King so far relented as to repeal all duties except that of threepence a pound on tea, which was retained at the express command of his Majesty, who said that there should always be one tax at least, to keep up the right of taxing." It was not the amount of the tax that displeased the Yankees; the principle of taxation without represencombinations against the importation of British goods, and against the use of tea, and steps were taken to prevent its being either landed or sold. Thus it was that a band of patriots on the evening of Dec. 16, 1773, disguised themselves, and going aboard the tea ships, emptied their cargoes into the water. This act brought about the American Revolution, and resulted in the independence of the United States.

Most of the perpetual public speakers in this town could get a valuable hint from one of their number. That one always draws a multitude of hearers, always arouses keen interest, is always greeted with the hottest applause, and has always reason to be satisfied with the printed reports of what he says. He delivers hundreds of speeches every year upon all kinds of subjects, and is welcomed by all kinds of people. So popular is he, that, whenever he appears at any gathering, the proceedings are apt to be interrupted to give him a chance to make a speech at once. If the Chairman puts him off to the last, everybody waits impatiently till his turn comes. His success is a mystery to hundreds of other speakers, one of whom has asked us for an explanation of it. We can explain it. It is because he says things that are striking, novel, lively, humorous, pleasing, and quite fresh. The other perpetual speakers who complain of their lack of attractiveness, and say that the audiences when they rise to speak, do not possess this poculiar power. Their speeches are commonplace, or dry, or muddy, or bombastic, or inept. They ought to study the ways of the one man among them who is ever ready for the occasion, ever up to the mark. We refer, of course, to the tire-less and never-tiring public speaker of this town who for all time to come will be known to the whole world as "The Peach," a title which he won in the Bowery.

The punishment of nine milk dealers for selling adulterated milk will be a warning to others of their kind. It is a gross and unlawful offence of which they were guilty. It is an offence by which the health of people is injured, and which may even in some cases cause loss of life. It is a swindle. We do not think it is very widely practised in New York, but every milkdealer who is guilty of it deserves the full penalty of the law.

There does not seem to us any impropriety in choosing a woman minister as assistant to man minister in the South Congregational Church of Bridgeport, Conn. The Bridgeport reporters say that the woman minister is a better theologian and a more eloquent preacher than the man minister, and more successfu with the wicked. There is perhaps danger that jealousy may thus be aroused between the two ministers of the church, and that the man's salary may be cut down to a lo the woman's; but we should think that these obstacles to harmony might be removed if the clergyman is a bachelor and the clergywoman unmarried. A long time ago we heard of another church with two ministers, one of them a man, the other a woman. If we remembe rightly, they got along pretty well together for

We notice two interesting advertisements in a Los Angeles, Cal., contemporary: Wanted-Japanese dishwasher for restaurant; \$25 Wanted-Dishwasher (white) for hotel; \$15

We suppose that higher wages are offered to the Japanese than to the white dishwasher because of the superior ability of the Japanese in that line of industry, and because the supply of Japanese is smaller than that of whites, so that there is less competition for situations among them than among the whites. We do no think that the white dishwashers of Los Angeles need to be afraid of their brown rivals, for the Mikado's Government has accepted the principle that Japanese emigrants shall go only to tho where they are welcomed. Mr.

KEARNEY of the Sand Lots of San Francisco will

never welcome the Japa.

The Hon. GEORGE R. MALEY of Ogdens ourg and the Hon, DANFORTH EMMET AINS-WORTH of Sandy Creek are making faces at the Hon, HAMILTON FISH of Putnam (now of Plattsburgh), and informing him somewhat snappishly that three's a crowd. They prefer a little arrangement by which one of them shall be Speaker and the other leader of the House. As Mr. Manuy has worn the gavel it would seem to be fair to let Mr. Atnewomen be Speaker, but Mr. Maluv picade his experience. Besides, he wants a chance to show that he can do better than he did last time. Al humane persons will hope that he can. "Not any business of ours is it such a big shindy to settle. as the judge in the poetry contest in the Eclogue for the St. Lawrence statesman and his Sandy The Hon. HAMILTON FIRM has been said by many, Republicans and Mugwumps, to be a politician slippery as oilskin and tortuous as the soundaries of a gerrymandered district; and what can such a straightforward and four-square firm of statesmen as MALBY and AINSWORTH expect from him? They reckon not well that

We healtate to believe that the gentlemen running the Royal Yacht Squadron of England would submit to the New York Vacht Club the insulting proposition of sailing for the America Cup and then refusing to accept the cup with the deed governing its possession. That would be neither yachtsmanlike nor polite. It would be simply boorish swagger.

The men under trial in Memphis upon the charge of lynching have been acquitted by the jury. It is a favorable sign for law and order in Memphis that the accused were arrested and brought to trial. The trial lasted for six weeks, and was conducted according to the most approved leval principles with plenty of witnesses for the prosecution as for the defence. The fact that the lynching of negroes can be punished in Tennessee, as in other Southern States, has been fully proved this year.

PARKHURST AS A STORY TELLER

Remarkable Effect of One of His Efforts at the Dry Goods Merchants' Dinner. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-SIT: A charming little incident of the dry goods merchants' din ner to Col. Strong was not recorded in the news-paper reports of the function, probably in the case of THE SUN owing to pressure of time and other matter, but you may agree with me that so humorous an outpouring of reverend innocence should not be jost in neglectful darkness while THE SUN shines.

Dr. Parkhurst, in his speech of advice to the Mayor elect as to filling the offices, said he wished to tell Mr. Strong of the wholesome interest taken by young men now in the reform movement. He said in substance: "I want to tell you of one instance, the case of a young man whose father is very wealthy, and who is not required to earn his own living. He told his father he had been thinking of applying for office under the new administration. said the father, 'you don't need to do anything, and you should not think of taking a subordinate position. I don't want you to.'

and you should not think of taking a subordinate position. I don't want you to.' But,' said this noble young man, 'father, perhaps I could do some good there,'

"How different," said Dr. Parkhurst in the voice of one truly good, "how different that from the spirit of the typical office seeker!"

To say that the company was temporarily paralyzed by the apparent sincerity of the speaker is a fair inferential statement. The muscular rigidity of its individual components for a few seconds was oppressive. As Dr. Parkhurst was printing his moral the faces of the men at the speaker's table were studies. Mr. Bliss took a reef in his aiready well-stayed lips, and, slowly turning his head, stole a scrutinizing corner glance at Col. Strong, who studiously looked across the Presidents' gaze. Choate the bland, who is said to be no politician himself, upraised innocent eyes to the man he had just proclaimed the foremost clerayman of his time, but though the reverential spirit was willing, the flesh was weak as of old, and the facial muscles twitched humorously upward. The hero of "Forty Years a Boy" placed his hand beside his face, ith small finger in mouth—the pose the pitian sculptors and painters adopted to indeate youth—but he could not bite hard enough and hastilly reached for a goblet of water (for the first time during the evening). Gen. Horace Porter seized a cup of cold coffee, and Admiral Meade's eyes sought longingly the place where the main peak would have been. Charles Stewart Smith watched Porter drink to see that he did not choke, and John Clasfin sot behind Choate's broad shoulders. The stenographer paused in his work to look up and make sure dream voices were not confusing him.

A rustling succeeded the first moments' rigidness, and the diners looked expectantly for scapular sproutings, but the reversed speaker soared no further.

"Perhaps, father, I can do some good there."
"How different from the typical office seeker!"
How feel Col. Strong's nearly six hundred Republican and nine Democratio applicants for

Applause at Football Games

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir! The writer and Football," in THE SUN of Dec. 10, may mean well, but his ideas are entirely wrong. Young ladies appland, and so does every one else, at a game of football when an injured player goes off the field and a new man is put on in his place. This applause is not one of delight at the injury of the player or of impatience to see the game go on. It is, first, patience to see the game go on. It is, first, a token of sympathy and respect to the injured man; secondly, an encouragement to the new player who goes on. I can mention a case in point. At the Yale-Princeton game at the Berkeley Oval in 1889, George, the centre rush for Princeton, was so badly injured that he was obliged to leave the field. As he was carried off, and passed along in front of the grand stand on his way to the dressing rooms, each section of the stand applauded. The public took this way of showing him they appreciated his qualities as a player, and sympathized with him in his misfortune.

fortune.

The writer has known scores of young American ladies who have been going to almost every game played in this neighborhood for the last five years, and who do not appear to be in any way hardened.

W. L. HEDENBERG.

They Like The Sun

From the Morning Star, Glens Palls, N. Y. THE SCH is one of the best newspapers that come our deak. Its news columns are clear and trust worthy. Its reports are not colored in response to sinister motives. Its editorial department gives evi-dence of rare ability. It is independent in politics. It s educational in its tendencies, and can be safely roduced to the home circle.

From the Independent, Mexico, N. Y. THE SUN still shines for all, but particularly for our countrymen. "The American Constitution, the Amerian Idea, the American Spirit," being its motto.

From the Journal, Palmyra, N. Y. The Scw has no equal in America. Always bright, always clean, always reliable, and always American. If truly illuminates the entire State with its bright nd clear editorials that fairly ring with patric

From the Reporter, Woodbury, Conn. None of the great metropolitan journals has ever been able to serve up the news of the day in a manner so lateresting and satisfactory to the general reader M THE SUN.

A Poser for Gallants. From the Indianapolis Journal.

The young man clutched his elderly friend rantic grasp.
"What ought a felier to say," he asked, "when a oung woman asks him if he thinks she is as old as

Foreign Notes of Real Interest. J. T. Hearne, the Huglish professional cricketer, has been engaged by the Mabarajah of Patiala to teach

the game to his son and other natives. Emile Augier's "Le Fils de Giboyer" has been revived at the Comedie Française for the farewell perform-ances of Got, who created the part of the literary bosemian when the play was first performed in 1862 It is proposed in Paris to establish a Grand Prix of \$6,000 for bicyclists of all nations, the first race to come off next summer at Vincennes. A committee of the Municipal Council is considering how the money can be raised.

The chemical examination of the stains on the holy coat at Argenteuil, set on foot by the Bishop of Versattles, has resulted in a report by the two scientific experts engaged that the spots are of human blood, and are very old. In Bertin the rush to call boy bables Aegir since the

appearance of the Emperor's "Song to Aegir," has rought trouble on the Registrar of births, who is fo bidden by law to receive Pagan names. The matter has been referred to the Court Chamberlain. Owing to the opposition of archaeologists the plans for the proposed reservoir at Associan in Egypt have been modified so as to make the top of the dam twenty-six feet lower. This will save the temples at

Philm and other monuments, but will only supply water enough to Irrigate either middle or Egypt instead of both.

Mr. Maxim recently gave a public exhibition of his new flying machine at Bexiev for the benefit of a local charity. We attempt was made to fly, but the machine was run up and down the rails, propolled solely by its serial screws at the rate of thirty miles an hour. This was accomplished with only one-third the sail area used in the attempt to fly last July and with the en-gines working at much less than full speed.

A Living-Picture Secret. From the Bochester Democrat and Chronicle

The very last question saked the rouns woman was: "Now preas tell me about those husts."
"To be frank with you." she asswered, those are of paper in the world would be crussed out of all resemblance to immanify by those tight beginning as we have the paper manife beauting by those tight beginning, so we have the paper manife beauty, it was and to not cruin."

THE EXPLORATIONS OF A COMET.

Enche's comet is returning to perihelion. sun in the constellation Aquarius. A telescope is needed to see it. When seen it appears as a mere wisp of nebulosity, and at its brightest it will hardly be visible to the naked eye; yet its return is an event of high importance to astronomers and, through astronomers, to the advance of human knowledge. It is due at its perihelion point on Feb. 4, after which it will retreat into space again. At every step in its progress until it has turned the goal and faded into the distance it will be closely watched, its gait will be measured, its peculiarities will be noted, and, as far as the astronomers are concerned, the earth will become a kind of judge's stand, where necks are craned and eyes are strained and fractions of a second loom gigantic as the little courser stretches for the wire.

The extraordinary interest in this return of

Encke's comet arises from two sources. In the first place the comet began many years ago to exhibit a marked peculiarity in its rate of motion. Its period from one perihelion passage to the next is about three and a quarter years, but this period has been slightly and gradually shortening ever since the discovery of the comet in 1818. Up to 1808 the rate of shortening was about two bours and a half on each revolution, and the conclusion was that the comet suffered a resistance from some medium pervading the space through which it travelled. The first result of such a resistance would be to retard the comet's advance in its orbit and force it a little closer to the sun. But being nearer the sun it would necessarily move faster, and thus would arrive at each return, a trifle earlier at perihelion. Astronomers had hardly begun to attack the problems arising out of the existence of a resisting medium in space, which the motion of Encke's comet seemed to demonstrate, before surprising change occurred in the rate at which the comet quickened its speed. This change was first noticed in 1868, at which time the comet's acceleration fell off to about one-half its former amount, and the new rate has been maintained ever since.

Such an alteration of rate is inconsistent with the idea of a general resisting medium occupy-ing space, but there is no dodging the fact that something interferes with the motion of Encke's comet. Two suggestions have been made. One, due to Prof. Young, is that of a regularly recurring encounter of the comet with a cloud of meteoric matter; the other, put forth by Mr. W. T. Lynn, is that the attraction of the asteroida near whose thronging orbits the comet passes when most distant from the sun, may be the source of disturbance.

If Encke's comet were a massive body these

effects would not be noticed. It is because the comet is so insignificant a mote, flying like an airy spirit among the planets, that it is able to tell us something of subtile forces and resistences which the ponderous earth would ride

down unnoticed. The second reason for the particular interest awakened by this return of the comet is that on its last previous visit to the sun, in 1891, it passed comparatively alone to the planet Mer cury. The effect of that approach must manifest itself also in the comet's motion. The great Jupiter is accustomed to send comets hither and thither at his will when they get within his sphere of attraction. Mercury cannot do that, both because if is much smaller than Jupiter, and because it is in the immediate presence of the dominating sun, but its attraction is sufficient, nevertheless, to cause a perceptible change in the comet' orbit. Now this change is a measure of the attractive power, or mass, of the planet producing it. It will therefore give a clue to the mass of Mercury, concerning which astronomers are still more or less in doubt. The mass of Mercury being ascertained, other related facts are gained for science, and thus a little wandering comet which, if it could be captured and condensed into a solid form, might not be the

largest exhibit in a meteorological museum, proves to be an explorer of interplanetary space, each of whose journeys into the unknown brings nrichment of knowledge to man.
GARRETT P. SERVISS. THE AUTUMN SHOW AT THE ACAD-

The public, almost with one accord, seems to have decided that the present exhibition of paintings at the Academy of Design is not just what it ought to be in order to represent that progress in art to encourage and stim-ulate which the venerable institution was founded. There is a sense of gloom in the halls, where beauty might be expected to smile upon her devotees. One may saunter through the several galleries with hardly an occasion to stop before a canvas of striking merit. Exception might be made in favor of the little picture as the head of the stairs in the corridor by Mr. E. W. D. Hamilton, who has represented "Narcissus," No. 59, as a fat and naked Indian lying pronupon the grassy bank of a stream and in his admiration of his own beauties resting his elbows in the shallow water, which reflects his face. The picture is well composed, the color is agreeable, and the figure is excellently drawn. Right above it hangs Mr. Rehn's "June Moor No. 60, a more than commonly pleasing

Turning to the left one is brought up standing and speachless before the picture by Mr. Thoma Shields Clarke, "The Night Market-Morocco, No. 51, as bizarre a creation as it is one's mis-fortune ever to encounter. The north gallery is partly redeemed by Mr. Bruce Crane's very goo Hillside Farm," No. 71; Mrs. M. R. Dixon's picture of her pretty daughter, "Amanuer No. 68: two cattle pictures by Mr. McIlhanna and Mr. Howe, and a large and beautifully painted picture by Mr. Herman Hartwick, "A Lombard Bleachery," No. 127,

study of the surf.

There is a curiously disagreeable little picture by Irving Wiles called "Summer," No. 235. A young woman entangled in a swirl of meaning ess and ineffective drapery, is writhing on the ground in the most distressing manner, and at the instant of the picture her head is lower than her feet. The color is pleasant, and is the one excuse, although hardly a sufficient one, for the

But it is hardly worth while to specify too particularly in a collection so uniformly eresting. Perhaps there are not many things that suggest a disturbance of the peace. The show is serene enough. It simply does not atimulate the interest in painting which at this time of the year ought to be active.

Suicides Boycotting Ningara Falls. From the Buffalo Courier.

From the Buffulo Courier.

Even though the times have been hard for a year past and many people have been in tough luck, it is frequently remarked that no one has ended life by Jumping over the falls, if memory serves correctly, since Noble Kenny of Buffulo went over at Prospect Point two years ago last summer. A park officer remarked to-day that previous to that not a season passed without witnessing from three to seven of such cases. One day a man and a woman committed culcide, one from Prospect Point and one from Luna Island. It is not argued that suicides throughout the country are less frequent than formerly, but the fact seems to be apparent that the fulls is less popular as a means of ending life than in days gone by.

A Lively Gas Well to Oswego County.

Prom the Utica Morning Herald.

SANDY CHEEK, Dec. 13.—A vein of natural gas was opened in well No. 16 here last night, which surpasses anything yet obtained. Tools were hurled from the well and scattered in all directions. The derrick was demolished. At present writing the pressure is 350 nounds to the square inch and is ateadily increasing. The noise of the escaping gas can ntie. Drilling has been suspend

Not Spending Money for Nothing

From the Chicago Daily Tribune.
"John," whispered Mrs. Billius at the play, concebedy behind no is making ill-natured research about my high bonnet. Shall I take it Not on your life, Maria," answered Mr. Bil-with a ferocious grin. "That bonnet cost lus, with a ferocious grin. "That bonnet cost me \$28.50, and I want you to get the full worth of the money

Recier Graduates Behind the Bur.

Propositio Leaviston Evening Journal.

Caribou has twenty Keeley graduates, and among the number is a lastel man who persists in running a lar, mainted by his non, who is also a Keeley man.

Assumatic troubles and sormers of the lungs of threat are usually overvoine by Dr. D. Jayne's Expec-torest-a situ curative for colds. - Air.

WHAT IS GOING ON IN SOCIETY. The debutantes are having it all their own was

this year. It may be that the old saying of "safety in numbers" has been their magic spell. or they may be more attractive and bewitching than their predecessors, but certain it is that they carry everything before them and reign supreme at every dance that has thus far been given. Even the conservative and time-honored Patriarchs' was all resoluds and bread and bus ter. "Duchesses Row" was represented only by Mrs. L. P. Morton and Mrs. R. T. Wilson, and whereas at former Patriarchs' balls it has flamed and blazed with diamonds, on this occasion Mrs. Morton, who were a necklace and a stomaches of brilliants, with many diamond stars in he hair, was almost the only lady whose jewels were at all noticeable. Mrs. Astor was no present, nor did her son and his beautiful wife ome to town for the occasion. Mrs. Cornelin Vanderbilt's jewels were rare and valuable, but not showy, and Mrs. William Douglas Sloans although beautifully costumed in white satin wore only a diamond bird and a necklace.

Of the younger married belies very few were to be seen in the vast crowd, and among those few Mrs. Edmund L. Baylies was the most becomingly costumed. She were a levely gown of rose-colored satin with a profusion of diamond stars, as well as a superb necklace of large stones, and looked extremely well. The brides of a few months back, Mrs. T. Suffern Tailer and Mrs. C. Oliver Iselin, the former in pale yellow and sable fur and the latter in blue satis and white lace, both attracted much admiring attention, but in so large an assemblage even very pretty women often pass unnoticed. Mrs. John Steward, who led the cotillon with Mr. Franklin Bartlett, wore an exquisite gown of mauve slik and wild roses, and is an extremely refined, graceful, and ladylike woman, bearing a strong resemblance to her mother, the late Mrs. James L Jones, who, in her spaciou and for those days sumptuous mansion in Washington place, gave balls and dinners the will never be forgotten by the old New Yorkers now living who assisted at them. Mrs. Jones was the eldest of Mr. Abraham Schermerhorn's large family of daughters, of whom Mrs. Wil-

liam Astor is the youngest.
That there have been many Patriarchs' balls at which the display of beauty was much greater than at the last is beyond a doubt, and many that in every respect were more con-spicuously brilliant. No foreigner could have called us a nation of shopkeepers nor cast our dollars in our teeth who judged of us by whathe saw on Monday night, but they unhesitatingly expressed their disappointment at the absence of beauty in the crowd, and one English magnate was heard to declare that the handsomes dowager present was Mrs. Adair, and the most beautiful girl Miss Hatch of London, who is

here under her chaperonage.

Monday was the only very busy day of the week. Mr. James L. Breese had a flattering reponse to his cards of invitation to the Carbon Studio, for the crowd of women who filled it was the largest that has been seen anywhere since the largest that has been seen anywhere since the Horse Show. Very enticing were the por-traits on the walls, and no doubt many ladies decided there and then to go down to posterity through the medium of Mr. Breese's artistic skill and new processes in the photographic art. He does not, however, always do justice to his est sitters, as neither the grace nor the beauty of Mrs. Roche appears in the portrait that he has made of her, while Miss Cora Randolph's upturned face is even more lovely than the original. His afternoon ten was highly successful however, and the women vibrated between his rooms and the Michaux Club most industriously from 4 till 7, quite indifferent to the fact that Mrs. Edwards's dinner of 100 at Sherry's, the opers, and a big ball lay between them and the

hour of sweet repose.
On Tuesday and Wednesday the windows of heaven were opened and the falling rain inter-fered with teas and receptions, and gave a shower bath to the wedding party of Miss Lamson and Mr. Appleton. But showers are not objected to at a wedding reception—they afford such an abundant subject of conversation when conversation is apt to flag, and an opportunity for poetical comparisons between the clouds and storm without and the sunshine prevailing within. In the evening there was a very full dance at Sherry's, under the direction of Mrs. R. J. Cross, Mrs. Francis Delafield, and other ladies, when the débutantes danced a beautiful cotilion with handsome favors.

Mrs. Henderson's dance at Sherry's on Thurs-

day for her daughter, Miss Beatrix Henderson, was a very pretty affair, and as only débutantes and girls who came out last winter were exwas a maze of fresh faces, fresh gowns, fresh flowers, and everything suggestive of that season, so well sung by the poets, when "young men's fancies lightly turn to thoughts of love." did not limit the invitations to her "the dansant" on Friday to the very young set. Consequently there was a great crowd, of all ages, and less dancing during the early hours than was desired. At the same time it was an opportunity for many people to enjoy themselves, and to watch the great army of débutantes, which they

thoroughly enjoyed and appreciate Yesterday was again débutantes' day, as Mrs. Sackett Barclay, Mrs. Julien T. Davies, Mrs. George T. Shelton, and Mrs. Henry Barbey all gave presentation receptions for their young daughters. Dolls of all countries, ages, and de signs also held high court at Sherry's, and reaped a rich harvest for the kind-hearted ladies who conducted the sale for the benefit of a most

deserving charity. Engagements for next week are not numerous Mr. Perry Belmont gives on Monday evening after the opera a supper dance at his residence in Fifth avenue, which will, of course, be a very select and very charming affair, and on the same evening Mrs. John H. Screven has a dance at o Sherry's for the juniors, whose ball gowns are likely to fall into ruins if their friends continue to be so kind to them.

Every one welcomed with satisfaction Miss Callender's and Miss De Forest's cards of invitation to musicales at intervals during the next three months, beginning on Thursday evening Jan. 17. These ladies have very wisely divided their visiting list this year and issued only one invitation to each of their friends, thus avoiding the terrible overcrowding of last winter, whe in their eagerness to enjoy to the full the feast of good music that was provided, many persons actually had the bad, or the good, taste to appear at all four of the entertainment

In the records of London society they have the nabit of naming each season after its principal attraction, as, for instance, they have the boy year, when Buffalo Bill was the idol of the reat world; the slumming year, when ladies forsook ballrooms and opera to invade the slums and dens of crime, vice, and indigence. Then came the skirt-dancing year, which has hardly yet seen its close; and now we have the bicycle year, which seems to have taken as complete possession of English women as it has of Americans. The beautiful Lady Dudley is one of the atest recruits, and also owes and rides a white blevels, which is very pretty, but hardly likely o stand the wear and tear of muddy roads. Bikes" are made highly ornamental on the ther side, and are enamelled in pale blue-green and light pink, which latter shade, however, has rather, it is said, an unclothed appearance. Scarlet, too, is not looked upon with disfavor, out the farmers object to it on country roads, as suggestive to both man and beast of the devil and all his works. The opening of the Michaux Club will probably augment the craze in this part of the world, although this is not a month when new enterprises flourish.

Raw oysters, which have whetted the appetites and sharpened the wits of dinera-out for so long a time, are evidently in disgrace. Even in London the spidemic of typhum fever that prevails there is attributed to the innecentcoking bivalves, and the sad experiences at Middletown College have created quite a scare about them in this country. Capi. Naylor Layland, who married Miss Jennie Chamber ain, is one of the sufferers from typhold in London, and it is feared that Mrs. Leyland may also have contracted the disease. The litters of Mrs. Charles F. Havemeyer has carried sorrow and sympathy among all her friends, and it is thought possible that she may have trought the germs of it from the other side.